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ARTICLES OF FAITH

AND

COVENANT,

OF THE

1st
First Congregational Church

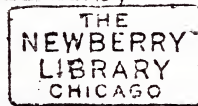
IN

LONGMEADOW, MASS.

WITH A

CATALOGUE OF MEMBERS,

AND AN



HISTORICAL NOTICE.

SPRINGFIELD:

GEORGE W. WILSON, PRINTER.

1852.

HISTORICAL NOTICE.

LONGMEADOW was incorporated as a distinct precinct February 17, 1713, when there were about 40 families. In April, 1714, they voted "to proceed in building a meeting house; and that the said house should be built 38 feet square, if the timber already gotten would allow it; or if the timber should be too scant, to make it something less." This house appears to have been finished in the early part of 1716, and occupied a site a little south of the present meeting house. In March, 1715, they voted to give Mr. Stephen Williams a call to be their minister. The following is from the old Church records as kept by Mr. Williams:

"The 17th of October, 1716, I was ordained and we had a church gathered.

And those of us, whose names are hereto suffixed did give ourselves to God, and to Jesus Christ, and did promise to walk together in a faithful attendance of all God's holy institutions, in order to his glory, and the edification of our own souls and the souls of our children."

STEPHEN WILLIAMS,	NATH'L. BLISS, 2d,
THOS. COLTON, Sen.,	JONATHAN ELY,
DANIEL COOLEY,	THOS. BLISS,
GEORGE COLTON,	SAM'L. BLISS, 4th,
NATH'L. BURT, Jr.	

In January, 1766, the parish voted to build a new meeting house of brick, but at a subsequent meeting, voted that it should be of wood, 56 feet in length, and 42 feet in width. The house was completed in 1769.

Rev. Stephen Williams, D. D., died June 10, 1782, in the 90th year of his age, and the 66th of his ministry.

Dec. 7, 1785, Mr. Richard Salter Storrs was ordained. He continued till Oct. 3, 1819, when his labors were suddenly terminated by death in the 57th year of his age, and the 34th of his ministry.

March 5th, 1823, Mr. Baxter Dickinson was ordained. He was dismissed Oct. 20, 1829.

July 14th, 1831, Mr. Jonathan B. Condit was ordained; dismissed Oct. 4th, 1835.

Oct. 18th, 1837, Mr. Hubbard Beebe was ordained; dismissed March 21, 1843.

Rev. Sam'l. Wolcott was installed Aug. 30, 1843; dismissed Dec. 27, 1847.

Jan. 1st, 1850, Mr. John W. Harding was ordained.

ARTICLES OF FAITH AND COVENANT.

ADDRESS.

BELoved FRIENDS:

You have presented yourselves, in this public manner, to make a profession of your religious faith, and to enter into covenant, with God and with this Church. God, angels, and this assembly are witnesses to the transaction. The profession which you now make, and the engagements into which you now enter, are of the most solemn moment; they will be heard on high, and will be exhibited on your trial at the last day.

Attend then to your

CONFESSION OF FAITH.

1. You believe that there is one only living and true God ; a Spirit, infinite, eternal, and unchangeable, and possessed of all possible perfections.

2. You believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are the perfect rule of our faith and practice.

3. You believe that God is revealed in the Scriptures as the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost ; that these three are the one God, and in all the divine attributes are equal.

4. You believe that the purposes of God are eternal and immutable ; that he created all things for his own glory ; and that his providence and government are universal, wise and holy.

5. You believe that man was created holy ; that he fell from that state by sinning against God ; and that in consequence of the fall, mankind are, by nature, destitute of holiness, and sinners against God.

6. You believe that Jesus Christ is both God and man ; that by his sufferings and death he

made an atonement sufficient for all mankind and that through him salvation is freely offered to all, on condition of repentance and faith.

7. You believe that all who truly repent of their sins and believe in Christ, were chosen in him before the foundation of the world ; that they are regenerated by the special influence of the Holy Spirit ; that they are justified on account of Christ's righteousness, and will be kept by the mighty power of God through faith unto salvation.

8. You believe that the Lord Jesus Christ has a visible Church in the world, the terms of admission to which are a public profession of faith in him, sustained by credible evidence of a change of heart ; and that the sacraments of the New Testament are Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

9. You believe that there will be a general resurrection of the dead, when Jesus Christ shall judge the world in righteousness ; and that the wicked shall go into everlasting punishment, and the righteous into life eternal.

All these things you heartily profess and believe.

[The ordinance of Baptism is here administered.]

Attend now to your

COVENANT.



IN the presence of God, his holy angels, and this assembly, you do now solemnly avow the Lord Jehovah to be your God and your portion forever. You do solemnly dedicate yourselves to God, the Father, as your Chief good, to the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour, and to the Holy Spirit as your Sanctifier. You do solemnly devote to the one living and true God, all your faculties, powers, and possessions ; covenanting that you will be the Lord's forever ; engaging that through the aid of his Spirit, you will love him supremely and obey him faithfully ; that you will give diligent attendance to his word and ordinances ; that you will seek, above all things, the honor and interests of his kingdom ; and that you will aim, without ceasing, to adorn your profession by a blameless life, and by holiness of heart.

You do also now cordially join yourselves to this Church of Christ, and engage to submit to the regular administration of its government and discipline ; to strive earnestly for

its peace, edification, and purity ; and to walk with its members in Christian faithfulness, fellowship, and love.

Trusting in the grace of God, you thus covenant and engage.

[The members of the Church here rise.]

In consequence of these professions and engagements, we, the members of this Church, do now affectionately receive you to our communion, and in the name of Christ declare you entitled to all its visible privileges ; we welcome you to the fellowship with us in the blessings of the gospel, and on our part engage to watch over you with Christian fidelity and tenderness, and seek your spiritual edification ; imploring of the great Head of the Church, that both you and me may be faithful to our Covenant, and glorify him with the holiness which becometh his house forever.



ADDRESS.

BELOVED IN THE LORD :

Let it never be forgotten, that you have here come under obligations from which you cannot escape ; you can never withdraw from the Covenant which has now been confirmed ; wherever you go, these vows will be with you ; they will follow you to the bar of God, and will abide upon you forever.

May the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work, to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ.

Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy ; to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen.

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS.

JANUARY 1, 1852.

PASTOR, JOHN W. HARDING, Ordained January 1st, 1850.

DEACONS, { EBENEZER BLISS,
 { ALFORD COOLEY.

CHRONOLOGICAL LIST OF MEMBERS.

1794.	Aug. 28. Mrs. Lucy C. Bliss.
Nov. 2. Mrs. Elizabeth H. Colton.	Mrs. Elizabeth Coomes.
	Miss Marilla Chandler.
1803.	Nov. 6. Caleb C. Field.
Dec. 25. Dolly Coomes.	Mrs. Sarah Field.
	Mrs. Ann G. Burt.
1806.	Dec. 25. Mrs. Electa C. Hixon.
June 5. Mrs. Cynthia Colton.	
1807.	1815.
July 5. Mrs. Mehitable Colton.	Feb. 26. Mrs. Mary Fuller.
	Miss Abigail Colton.
1808.	1816.
Ap'l 24. Warham Colton.	Nov. 3. Mrs. Lucretia Chandler.
Mrs. Rebecca Hale.	1818.
June 19. " Serviah Cooley.	Oct. 25. Mrs. Amelia Taylor.
" Frelove Colton.	
Aug. 7. Mrs. Laura C. Burbank.	1821.
Sept. 1. Mrs. Esther Colton.	Sept. 2. Levi E. Taylor.
	Mrs. Laura Taylor.
1813.	Mrs. Experience C. Hunt.
Oct. 31. Mrs. Eunice C. Colton.	Mrs. Jerusha B. Field.
	Miss Mary Evarts.
1814.	Nov. 5. Mrs. Sarah Kent.
Ap'l 24. Moses Field.	Miss Hannah Ely.
Mrs. Naomi C. Cooley.	Miss Lucy Booth.
June 26. Luther Colton.	Mrs. Harriet C. Bliss.
Mrs. Lucy Colton.	Mrs. Clarinda C. Evarts.
Lyman Colton.	Calvin Chandler.

1822.
June 30. Dea. Ebenezer Bliss.

1823.
Jan. 26. Dan'l Burbank.

1825.
Sept. 4. Mrs. Filia K. Colton.
Samuel Kilbon.
Nov. 6. Jacob Colton.

1826.
Jan. 1. Mrs. Marilla M. Bliss.
Sept. 3. Asahel Colton.
Mrs. Wealthy Colton.
Samuel C. Stebbins.
Mrs. Laura M. Stebbins.
Mrs. Naomi R. Colton.
Samuel C. Booth.
Nov. 5. William Burt.
Mrs. Sarah K. Burt.
Miss Flavia C. Coomes.

1827.
Nov. 4. Loammi Simons.
Mrs. Clarinda R. Colton.

1832.
July 1. Ethan Ely.
David Bowker.
Stephen T. Colton.
Israel Gates.
Mrs. Hannah Gates.
Sabin Burt.
Mrs. Sarah C. Burt.
Miss Mercy S. Cooley.
Mrs. Sophia F. Colton.
Oliver Field.
Miss Theodosia Cooley.
Sept. 2. Mrs. Belenda C. Cooley.
Miss Sophia Robinson.
Alonzo Coomes.
Oct 31. Dimond Chandler.
Mrs. Laurinda C. Chandler.
Miss Hannah Colton.
Nov. 4. William White.
Mrs. Lois C. White.

1835.
May 3. Mrs. Caroline B. Cooley.
Mrs. Dinah C. Hale.
July 5. Miss Eunice Keep.

1837.
Sept. 3. Cyrus Newell.
Mrs. Salina S. Newell.

1838.
May 6. Mrs. Sarah Coomes.
July 1. Mrs. Lucinda C. Nevers.

1840.
July 5. Walter Bliss.
Dea. Alford Cooley.
Sylvester Bliss.
Nelson C. Newell.
Miss Mary W. Burbank.
Sept. 6. James Bliss.
Mrs. Eunice C. Bliss.
Miss Jerusha Bliss.
Mrs. Arminda Allen.
Miss Eliza B. Collins.
Samuel Cooley.
Horace S. Newell.
Noah Bliss.
Miss Mary Ann Bliss.
" Rhoda B. Goldthwait.
Mrs. Flavia F. Newell.
Miss Laura M. Stebbins.
Edwin K. Colton.
Nov. 1. Mrs. Eliza J. Chandler.

1841.
Jan. 3. Miss Caroline Keep.
William P. White.
May 2. Miss Mary C. Stebbins.
Alexander F. Stebbins.
Mrs. Frances W. Simons.
Sept. 5. " Susan L. Goldthwait.

1842.
M'ch 6. Mrs. Eliza M. Cooley.

1843.
M'ch 5. Mrs. Cynthia T. Colton.
May 7. Mrs. Amanda F. Burt.

Oct. 1. George Hooker.
Mrs. Rachel Hooker.

1844.

May 5. Nathaniel P. Newell.
Edward Keep.

June 30. Miss Naomi R. Colton.

July 7. Mrs. Roxanna Chapin.
Mrs. Mary Jane Coomes.

Mrs. Sarah Ann Parker.

Miss Amelia C. Cooley.

Josiah C. Colton.

Mrs. Lucinda E. Colton.

Miss Cordelia A. Bliss.

Samuel F. Chandler.

Mrs. Chloe Chandler.

Sept. 1. Mrs. Abi S. Knox.

William C. Silcox.

Henry A. Keep.

Edmund Coomes

Mrs. Lavinia Coomes.

George F. Wolcott.

Miss Jeannette C. White.

Miss Louisa P. Burbank.

1845.

June 5. George Ferre.

Mrs. Elizabeth M. Ferre.

Mrs. Elizabeth D. Colton.

Miss Emily N. Coomes.

1846.

Jan. 4. Rev. Sanford Lawton.

Mrs. Mary Ann C. Lawton.

Sanford Lawton, Jr.

Miss Mary Ann Lawton.

Nov. 1. Mrs. Julia N. Bliss.

1847.

M'ch 7. Mrs. Elizabeth Stebbins.

Sept 5. Miss Fanny G. Hale.

Miss Mary Jane Silcox.

1849.

Feb. 18. Dea. Ebenezer Burt.

Miss Amanda T. Burt.

July 1. Miss Margaret Bartlett.

1850.

Jan. 1. Rev. John W. Harding.

" 6. Mrs. Cornelia S. Newell.

M'ch 3. Miss Nancy E. Colton.

Charles R. Bliss.

June 23. Mrs. Abigail Goodrich.

Miss Laura G. Goodrich.

July 7. David Hale.

Miss Charlotte H. Stebbins.

July 14. Mrs. Julia Colton.

Sept. 1. Ethan Ely, Jr.

Mrs. Eliza Gates.

Miss Susan Colton.

Miss Clarinda R. Colton.

Miss Maria Bliss.

Miss Mary Jane Coomes.

Sam'l W. Burbank.

Nov. 3. William J. Lawton.

Miss Ellen Bliss.

Miss Harriet Bliss.

Miss Julia M. Colton.

Miss Amelia Stebbins.

Mrs. Nancy M. Bradley.

1851.

Jan. 5. Mrs. Nancy A. Colton.

Henry B. Noble.

Ebenezer B. Clark.

Miss Cornelia L. Colton.

Miss Caroline Cooley.

Miss Julia M. Bliss.

M'ch 2. Mrs. Mary Ann Holister.

May 4. John B. Coomes.

Mrs. Mary Atchison.

Miss Jane Atchison.

Aug. 17. Mrs. Emily Griswold.

1852.

Jan. 4. William W. Coomes.

Mrs. Lucretia C. Coomes.

Miss Georgiana M. Bliss.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF MEMBERS.

A

Allen Mrs Arminda,
Atchison Mrs Mary,
Atchison Jane.

B

Bliss Dea. Ebenezer,
Bliss Mrs Marilla M.,
Bliss Mrs Harriet C.,
Bliss James,
Bliss Mrs Eunice C.,
Bliss Jerusha,
Bliss Sylvester,
Bliss Cordelia A.,
Bliss Maria,
Bliss Harriet,
Bliss Georgianna M.,
Bliss Walter,
Bliss Noah,
Bliss Mary Ann,
Bliss Mrs Lucy C.,
Bliss Mrs Julia N.,
Bliss Ellen,
Bliss Charles R.,
Bliss Julia M.,
Burbank Daniel,
Burbank Mrs Laura C.,
Burbank Mary W.
Burbank Louisa P.,
Burbank Samuel W.
Burt Mrs Ann G.,
Burt Mrs Amanda F.,
Burt Mrs Sarah R.,
Burt Sabin,
Burt Mrs Sarah C.,
Burt Mrs Amanda,
Burt Dea. Ebenezer,
Burt Amanda T.,
Booth Samuel C.,
Booth Lucy,

Bowker David,
Bartlet Margaret,
Bradley Mrs Nancy M.

C

Cooley Dea. Alford,
Cooley Mrs Caroline S.,
Cooley Caroline,
Cooley Mrs Naomi C.,
Cooley Mercy S.,
Cooley Amelia C.,
Cooley Mrs Serviah,
Cooley Theodosia,
Cooley Mrs Belinda C.,
Cooley Samuel,
Cooley Mrs Eliza M.,
Colton Mrs Elizabeth H.,
Colton Mrs Cynthia F.,
Colton Mrs Mehitabel,
Colton Warham,
Colton Mrs Filia K.,
Colton Mrs Esther,
Colton Mrs Eunice C.,
Colton Mrs Freelove,
Colton Luther,
Colton Mrs Lucy,
Colton Lyman,
Colton Mrs Sophia F.,
Colton Abigail,
Colton Jacob,
Colton Clarinda,
Colton Nancy E.,
Colton Mrs Clarinda R.,
Colton Asahel,
Colton Mrs Wealthy,
Colton Naomi R.,
Colton Stephen T.,
Colton Mrs Cynthia,
Colton Hannah,
Colton Mrs Naomi R.,

Colton Edwin K.,
 Colton Mrs Lucinda E.,
 Colton Mrs Elizabeth D.,
 Colton Julia,
 Colton Mrs Julia,
 Colton Josiah,
 Colton Mrs Nancy A.,
 Colton Susan,
 Colton Cornelia,
 Coomes Dolly,
 Coomes Alonzo,
 Coomes Mrs Mary Jane,
 Coomes Mrs Sarah,
 Coomes Mary Jane
 Coomes Edmund,
 Coomes Mrs Lavinia,
 Coomes Emily N.,
 Coomes John B.,
 Coomes William W.,
 Coomes Mrs Lucretia C.,
 Collins Eliza B.,
 Chapin Mrs Roxanna,
 Chandler Marilla,
 Chandler Calvin S.,
 Chandler Mrs Lucretia,
 Chandler Dimond,
 Chandler Mrs Laurinda C.,
 Chandler Samuel F.,
 Chandler Mrs Chloe,
 Chandler Mrs Eliza J.,
 Clark Ebenezer B.

E

Ely Ethan,
 Ely Hannah,
 Ely Ethan, Jr.,
 Evarts Mary,
 Evarts Mrs Clarinda C.,
 Eastman Charlotte.

F

Field Moses,
 Field Caleb C.,
 Field Mrs Sarah,
 Field Oliver,
 Field Mrs Jerusha B.,
 Fuller Mrs Mary C.,
 Ferre George,

Ferre Mrs Elizabeth M.

G

Gates Israel,
 Gates Mrs Hannah,
 Gates Mrs Eliza,
 Goldthwait Rhoda B.,
 Goldthwait Mrs Susan L.,
 Goodrich Mrs Abigail,
 Goodrich Laura G.,
 Griswold Mrs Emily.

H

Harding Rev John W.,
 Hixon Mrs Electa C.,
 Hunt Mrs Experience C.,
 Hooker George,
 Hooker Mrs,
 Hale David,
 Hale Mrs Rebecca,
 Hale Mrs Dinah C.,
 Hale Fanny,
 Holister Mrs Mary Ann.

K

Keep Eunice,
 Keep Henry A.,
 Keep Edward,
 Keep Caroline,
 Kent Mrs Sarah,
 Kilbon Samuel,
 Knox Mrs Abi S.

L

Lawton Rev Sanford
 Lawton Mrs Mary Ann C.,
 Lawton Mary Ann,
 Lawton Sanford,
 Lawton William.

N

Newell Cyrus,
 Newell Mrs Salina S.,
 Newell Nelson C.,
 Newell Horace S.,
 Newell Mrs Cornelia S.,
 Newell Nathaniel P.,
 Newell Mrs Flavia F.,

Nevers Mrs Lucinda C.,
Noble Henry.

P

Parker Mrs Sarah Ann.

S

Stebbins Samuel C.,
Stebbins Mrs Laura M.,
Stebbins Laura M.,
Stebbins Alexander F.,
Stebbins Charlotte H.,
Stebbins Mary C.,
Stebbins Mrs Elizabeth,
Stebbins Amelia,
Silcox William C.,

Silcox Mary Jane,
Simons Loammi,
Simons Mrs Frances W.

T

Taylor Levi E.,
Taylor Mrs Laura,
Taylor Mrs Amelia.

W

White William,
White Mrs Lois C.,
White William P.,
White Jeannette C.,
Wolcott George F.



MAY '75



N. MANCHESTER,
INDIANA

